

SENATE BILL 2686

By Cohen

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to postsecondary
financial assistance from lottery proceeds.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, is amended by
adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 49-4-9__.

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 49-4-905(b)(2) to the contrary, a student
who graduates from a high school located in a neighboring state in a county contiguous
to this state shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship as an entering
freshman, if the student:

(1) Has been a Tennessee resident, as defined by regulations
promulgated by the board of regents under § 49-8-104, for one (1) year
immediately preceding the date of graduation from high school and remains a
Tennessee resident between graduation from high school and enrollment in an
eligible postsecondary institution;

(2) Is not ineligible for the scholarship under § 49-4-904;

(3) Attains a composite ACT score of at least 21 on any single ACT test
date or a combined SAT score of at least 980 on any single SAT test date;

(4) Applies for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship; and

(5) Is admitted to and enrolls in an eligible postsecondary institution no
later than sixteen (16) months after graduation from high school.

(b) If a student meets the eligibility requirements of subsection (a), but chooses to attend a regionally accredited postsecondary institution located outside of Tennessee without a Tennessee Hope scholarship, then such student shall be eligible for a HOPE scholarship as a transfer student; provided, that the student meets all requirements of § 49-4-929 other than any requirement pertaining to the type of high school from which the student graduated.

(c) A student who is eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship under this section shall not be eligible for a General Assembly Merit Scholar supplemental award under § 49-4-916.

(d) No retroactive award of a Tennessee HOPE scholarship shall be made under this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.